

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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DEC 13 2004  
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE*

In re Application of: David A. Schwartz, et al.  
Serial No.: 09/441,102  
Filing Date: November 16, 1999  
Group Art Unit: 2667  
Examiner: Kamran Emdadi  
Confirmation No.: 3856  
Title: System and Method for Communicating Data Packets Using a Backplane Switch

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**Response Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

In the Office Action mailed August 13, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 1-23 and 25-59. In light of the following amendments and the remarks below, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the rejections and allow claims 1-5, 7-16, 18-23, 25-27, 29-40, 42-46, and 48-59.